

Public Law 105-304
105th Congress

An Act

Oct. 28, 1998
[H.R. 2281]

To amend title 17, United States Code, to implement the World Intellectual Property Organization Copyright Treaty and Performances and Phonograms Treaty, and for other purposes.

Digital
Millennium
Copyright Act.
17 USC 101 note.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Digital Millennium Copyright Act".

SEC. 2. TABLE OF CONTENTS.

- Sec. 1. Short title.
- Sec. 2. Table of contents.

TITLE I—WIPO TREATIES IMPLEMENTATION

- Sec. 101. Short title.
- Sec. 102. Technical amendments.
- Sec. 103. Copyright protection systems and copyright management information.
- Sec. 104. Evaluation of impact of copyright law and amendments on electronic commerce and technological development.
- Sec. 105. Effective date.

TITLE II—ONLINE COPYRIGHT INFRINGEMENT LIABILITY LIMITATION

- Sec. 201. Short title.
- Sec. 202. Limitations on liability for copyright infringement.
- Sec. 203. Effective date.

TITLE III—COMPUTER MAINTENANCE OR REPAIR COPYRIGHT EXEMPTION

- Sec. 301. Short title.
- Sec. 302. Limitations on exclusive rights; computer programs.

TITLE IV—MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

- Sec. 401. Provisions Relating to the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks and the Register of Copyrights.
- Sec. 402. Ephemeral recordings.
- Sec. 403. Limitations on exclusive rights; distance education.
- Sec. 404. Exemption for libraries and archives.
- Sec. 405. Scope of exclusive rights in sound recordings; ephemeral recordings.
- Sec. 406. Assumption of contractual obligations related to transfers of rights in motion pictures.
- Sec. 407. Effective date.

TITLE V—PROTECTION OF CERTAIN ORIGINAL DESIGNS

- Sec. 501. Short title.
- Sec. 502. Protection of certain original designs.
- Sec. 503. Conforming amendments.
- Sec. 504. Joint study of the effect of this title.
- Sec. 505. Effective date.

"(E) subject to a Presidential proclamation under subsection (g).";

(2) by amending paragraph (3) to read as follows:

"(3) The term 'eligible country' means a nation, other than the United States, that—

"(A) becomes a WTO member country after the date of the enactment of the Uruguay Round Agreements Act;

"(B) on such date of enactment is, or after such date of enactment becomes, a nation adhering to the Berne Convention;

"(C) adheres to the WIPO Copyright Treaty;

"(D) adheres to the WIPO Performances and Phonograms Treaty; or

"(E) after such date of enactment becomes subject to a proclamation under subsection (g).";

(3) in paragraph (6)—

(A) in subparagraph (C)(iii) by striking "and" after the semicolon;

(B) at the end of subparagraph (D) by striking the period and inserting "; and"; and

(C) by adding after subparagraph (D) the following:

"(E) if the source country for the work is an eligible country solely by virtue of its adherence to the WIPO Performances and Phonograms Treaty, is a sound recording.";

(4) in paragraph (8)(B)(i)—

(A) by inserting "of which" before "the majority"; and

(B) by striking "of eligible countries"; and

(5) by striking paragraph (9).

(d) REGISTRATION AND INFRINGEMENT ACTIONS.—Section 411(a) of title 17, United States Code, is amended in the first sentence—

(1) by striking "actions for infringement of copyright in Berne Convention works whose country of origin is not the United States and"; and

(2) by inserting "United States" after "no action for infringement of the copyright in any".

(e) STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS.—Section 507(a) of title 17, United States Code, is amended by striking "No" and inserting "Except as expressly provided otherwise in this title, no".

SEC. 103. COPYRIGHT PROTECTION SYSTEMS AND COPYRIGHT MANAGEMENT INFORMATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Title 17, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new chapter:

"CHAPTER 12—COPYRIGHT PROTECTION AND MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS

"Sec.

"1201. Circumvention of copyright protection systems.

"1202. Integrity of copyright management information.

"1203. Civil remedies.

"1204. Criminal offenses and penalties.

"1205. Savings clause.

"§ 1201. Circumvention of copyright protection systems

"(a) VIOLATIONS REGARDING CIRCUMVENTION OF TECHNOLOGICAL MEASURES.—(1)(A) No person shall circumvent a technological measure that effectively controls access to a work protected

Effective date. under this title. The prohibition contained in the preceding sentence shall take effect at the end of the 2-year period beginning on the date of the enactment of this chapter.

"(B) The prohibition contained in subparagraph (A) shall not apply to persons who are users of a copyrighted work which is in a particular class of works, if such persons are, or are likely to be in the succeeding 3-year period, adversely affected by virtue of such prohibition in their ability to make noninfringing uses of that particular class of works under this title, as determined under subparagraph (C).

Reports.
Regulations.

"(C) During the 2-year period described in subparagraph (A), and during each succeeding 3-year period, the Librarian of Congress, upon the recommendation of the Register of Copyrights, who shall consult with the Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information of the Department of Commerce and report and comment on his or her views in making such recommendation, shall make the determination in a rulemaking proceeding on the record for purposes of subparagraph (B) of whether persons who are users of a copyrighted work are, or are likely to be in the succeeding 3-year period, adversely affected by the prohibition under subparagraph (A) in their ability to make noninfringing uses under this title of a particular class of copyrighted works. In conducting such rulemaking, the Librarian shall examine—

"(i) the availability for use of copyrighted works;

"(ii) the availability for use of works for nonprofit archival, preservation, and educational purposes;

"(iii) the impact that the prohibition on the circumvention of technological measures applied to copyrighted works has on criticism, comment, news reporting, teaching, scholarship, or research;

"(iv) the effect of circumvention of technological measures on the market for or value of copyrighted works; and

"(v) such other factors as the Librarian considers appropriate.

Publication.

"(D) The Librarian shall publish any class of copyrighted works for which the Librarian has determined, pursuant to the rulemaking conducted under subparagraph (C), that noninfringing uses by persons who are users of a copyrighted work are, or are likely to be, adversely affected, and the prohibition contained in subparagraph (A) shall not apply to such users with respect to such class of works for the ensuing 3-year period.

"(E) Neither the exception under subparagraph (B) from the applicability of the prohibition contained in subparagraph (A), nor any determination made in a rulemaking conducted under subparagraph (C), may be used as a defense in any action to enforce any provision of this title other than this paragraph.

"(2) No person shall manufacture, import, offer to the public, provide, or otherwise traffic in any technology, product, service, device, component, or part thereof, that—

"(A) is primarily designed or produced for the purpose of circumventing a technological measure that effectively controls access to a work protected under this title;

"(B) has only limited commercially significant purpose or use other than to circumvent a technological measure that effectively controls access to a work protected under this title; or

"(C) is marketed by that person or another acting in concert with that person with that person's knowledge for use in circumventing a technological measure that effectively controls access to a work protected under this title.

"(3) As used in this subsection—

"(A) to 'circumvent a technological measure' means to descramble a scrambled work, to decrypt an encrypted work, or otherwise to avoid, bypass, remove, deactivate, or impair a technological measure, without the authority of the copyright owner; and

"(B) a technological measure 'effectively controls access to a work' if the measure, in the ordinary course of its operation, requires the application of information, or a process or a treatment, with the authority of the copyright owner, to gain access to the work.

"(b) ADDITIONAL VIOLATIONS.—(1) No person shall manufacture, import, offer to the public, provide, or otherwise traffic in any technology, product, service, device, component, or part thereof, that—

"(A) is primarily designed or produced for the purpose of circumventing protection afforded by a technological measure that effectively protects a right of a copyright owner under this title in a work or a portion thereof;

"(B) has only limited commercially significant purpose or use other than to circumvent protection afforded by a technological measure that effectively protects a right of a copyright owner under this title in a work or a portion thereof; or

"(C) is marketed by that person or another acting in concert with that person with that person's knowledge for use in circumventing protection afforded by a technological measure that effectively protects a right of a copyright owner under this title in a work or a portion thereof.

"(2) As used in this subsection—

"(A) to 'circumvent protection afforded by a technological measure' means avoiding, bypassing, removing, deactivating, or otherwise impairing a technological measure; and

"(B) a technological measure 'effectively protects a right of a copyright owner under this title' if the measure, in the ordinary course of its operation, prevents, restricts, or otherwise limits the exercise of a right of a copyright owner under this title.

"(c) OTHER RIGHTS, ETC., NOT AFFECTED.—(1) Nothing in this section shall affect rights, remedies, limitations, or defenses to copyright infringement, including fair use, under this title.

"(2) Nothing in this section shall enlarge or diminish vicarious or contributory liability for copyright infringement in connection with any technology, product, service, device, component, or part thereof.

"(3) Nothing in this section shall require that the design of, or design and selection of parts and components for, a consumer electronics, telecommunications, or computing product provide for a response to any particular technological measure, so long as such part or component, or the product in which such part or component is integrated, does not otherwise fall within the prohibitions of subsection (a)(2) or (b)(1).

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